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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES, AFL-CIO

September 16, 2013

Mr. John Boehner
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

I am writing to convey the strong support of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) for H.R. 3080, the *Water Resources Reform & Development Act of 2013 (WRRDA)*.

On a daily basis and in every corner of the nation, our skilled craftsmen and women work to prevent rust and corrosion on locks, dams, ports, and waterways. We applaud Committee Chairman Bill Shuster and Ranking Member Nick Rahall as well as the Water Resources & Environment Subcommittee Chairman Bob Gibbs and Ranking Member Tim Bishop for recognizing that this type of work is absolutely vital for keeping water infrastructure, in which so much of our economy depends, operating continuously and safely.

We further support their effort to create jobs for the construction industry overall. From streamlining project delivery by eliminating unnecessary government bureaucracy to de-authorizing \$12 billion worth of backlogged and inactive projects, it is clear H.R. 3080 would open up new job opportunities for business and labor at a time when the construction industry is still recovering from the Great Recession.

Finally, I commend Chairman Shuster and Ranking Member Rahall for returning regular bipartisan order to the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. This WRRDA bill is proof positive of that as well as the fact that House Democrats and Republicans can work together to solve this country's problems. I thank them on behalf of not only the IUPAT constituents in their district, but also for the remainder of our 160,000 active and retired members throughout America. Their leadership is much appreciated and I look forward to working with them to support passage of the *Water Resources Reform & Development Act of 2013*.

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Rigmaiden
General President